(b) Details of the funds earmarked, distrubuted and utilized in Bihar and Maharashtra so far for the said purpose during this period are as under:

Years	Details of funds earmarked & utilized during the last three years of BSNL (Rs. in crores)					
	Bihar			Maharashtra (except Mumbai)		
	Earmarked	Distributed	Utilised	Earmarked	Distributed	Utilised
2002-03	251.73	250.90	250.01	257.34	257.34	270.39
2003-04	152.24	151.80	139.15	274.92	274.92	223.98
2004-05	117.33	116.94	116.00	134.65	135.65	54.86

Years	Details of funds during the last three years of MTNL, Mumbai (Rs. in crores)	
	Earmarked	Distributed/Utilised
2002-03	41.11	21.92
2003-04	19.01	17.15
2004-05	24.53	20.39

(c) BSNL has planned to open 23 exchanges in Bihar in the remaining plan period. However, with availability of wireless technology (WLL/GSM), more and more telephones are planned to be provided on wireless technologies for which 581 Base Transceiver Stations (BTSs) having capacity of lines 4,35,750 and 134 BTSs having capacity of 1,00,500 lines are planned for Maharashtra and Bihar respectively.

MTNL has proposed to set up 18 exchanges mostly Remote Switching Units (RSUs) each in the financial year 2005-06 and 2006-07 of the 10th Five Year Plan in Mumbai subject to requirement.

Access to cable television for broadband operators

1366. SHRI C. PERUMAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to allow broadband operators access to cable television;

(b) whether any policy has been formulated in this regard;

(c) if so, the details therefor; and

(d) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEELAHMAD): (a) to (d) Bordband Policy, 2004 recognises the importance of cable TV connection as last mile infrastructure for giving a stimulus to Broadband penetration. Therefore, cable TV network can be used as franchisee network of service provider for provisioning Broadband Services. However, all responsibilities for ensuring compliance of terms and conditions of licence shall vest with licensee. The terms of franchise agreement between the licensee and his franchise shall be settled mutually by negotiations between the two parties involved.

Inastallation of PCO booths in Punjab

1367. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the number of STD/ISD/PCO booths running in various districts of Punjab at present;

(b) the number of booths proposed to be installed during the current year;

(c) the amount earmarked for this purpose and the amount released, so far;

(d) whether the waiting list for PCOs is on the rise; and

(e) if so, by when the waiting list would be cleared?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEELAHMAD): (a) Sir, as on 31.01.2006, the number of STD/ISD/PCOs provided by Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL) in various districts of Punjab is 42,317. The number of PCOs provided by private operators in Punjab is 1,11,096. The details are given in the enclosed Statement (see below).